



# WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT



## Forum On Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA)

The Forum On Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA) will connect the community, the Government and the airport developer during planning and development of the Western Sydney Airport. The establishment of FOWSA is a key condition in the Western Sydney Airport Plan. FOWSA will provide a communication channel for the community's engagement in the development of the airport and ensure the community's views are taken into account.

### Background

The Airport Plan authorises the construction and operation of Stage 1 of the airport. Conditions within the Airport Plan are mandatory and compel the Commonwealth to deliver the airspace and flight path design for single runway operations at the airport in the lead up to airport operations commencing in 2026. Specifically related to FOWSA, Condition 16(2) requires the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (the Department) to:

*“establish a community and stakeholder reference group (FOWSA) which will operate until the end of the detailed design stage... [of the airspace and flight path design process].”*

A key objective of FOWSA is to ensure the views of the community are taken into account throughout the airspace and flight path design process for the airport's first stage of development. FOWSA will also allow the community, local authorities, airport users and other interested parties to be informed about a range of issues relating to the broader planning and development of the airport, including maximising the economic and social benefits of the project for Western Sydney. Western Sydney Airport not only has the potential to create thousands of jobs, it will also offer significant educational, skills training and business development opportunities. FOWSA will provide an important avenue for community and other key stakeholders to come together and be involved in maximising these opportunities.

An aviation Expert Steering Group, led by the Department, will oversee the detailed planning and design process for the airport's airspace arrangements and flight paths. Other members of the steering group will include Airservices Australia, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and the airport operator (once appointed). FOWSA and the Expert Steering Group will work collaboratively to deliver an informed and community-consulted airspace and flight path design for Western Sydney Airport.

The airspace and flight path design process will be a complex technical task conducted over several years. [Attachment 1](#) depicts the main phases, activities and outputs of the airspace design process (included as

Table 10 of the Airport Plan). It also shows the current estimated timing for different stages of the process. The figure at [Attachment 2](#) shows the range of activities being undertaken across various aspects of the project to deliver an operational Western Sydney Airport in the mid-2020s.

The terms of reference developed for FOWSA set out the objectives of the forum, the membership structure, the roles of the independent Chair and members, other administrative details and reporting requirements. The terms of reference, the Western Sydney Airport EIS and the Airport Plan are available at [www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au](http://www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au).

## FOWSA membership

Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chair) – Chancellor, Western Sydney University

Senator the Hon Marise Payne – Senator for New South Wales

Dr Mike Freelander MP – Federal Member for Macarthur

Ms Anne Stanley MP – Federal Member for Werriwa

Mr Christopher Patterson MP – New South Wales State Member for Camden

Ms Lee de Winton – CEO, Sydney Metro Airports Bankstown and Camden

Mr David Borger – Western Sydney Director, Sydney Business Chamber

Ms Joanne Bromilow – Resident of Blaxland

Mr Damian Callachor – Senior Manager, Government Industry and International Affairs, Qantas

Ms Adriana Care – Resident of Camden-Narellan

Ms Kiersten Fishburn – CEO, Liverpool City Council

Mr Bob Germaine – Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Sydney

Mr Gordon Henwood – Resident of Mulgoa

Mr Mike Higgins – CEO, Regional Aviation Association of Australia

Mr Jacob Idiculas – Resident of Bossley Park

Ms Fiona Mann – Strategic Activities Planner, Hawkesbury City Council

Ms Alison Morgan – Director, Sydney Region, New South Wales Department of Premier and Cabinet

Mr Luke Nicholls – Director, City and Community Outcomes, Blue Mountains City Council

Mr Adrian Slootjes – Manager, Air Traffic Management and Meteorology, Virgin Australia

Cr John Thain – Mayor, Penrith City Council

Mr Paul Tosi – former General Manager, Campbelltown City Council

Mr John Walton – Resident of Silverdale

Mr Wayne Willmington – Resident of Luddenham

## *Resourcing and administrative support*

FOWSA is required to meet at least three times each year at a suitable location in Western Sydney. Full secretariat and administrative support will be provided by the Department.

## Airspace and flight path design process<sup>1</sup>

Phase	Key activities	Key outcomes	Timing
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish expert steering group</li> <li>Collect stakeholder views on system requirements, including community and environmental inputs</li> <li>Confirm Sydney basin airspace and air route requirements and constraints</li> <li>Establish community and stakeholder reference group (FOWSA)</li> <li>Develop and undertake a preliminary environmental assessment of airspace concept options (i.e. standard arrival and departure routes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation conducted with interested parties, including regulatory authorities, government agencies, airlines, other Sydney basin aerodrome operators and airspace users, and the community</li> <li>Review of airspace concept options and potential noise abatement procedures including identification of a preferred high-level airspace concept option</li> </ul>	Approx. 2 years starting from determination of Airport Plan
Preliminary design and environmental assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the preliminary airspace design</li> <li>Refer preferred airspace design to the Environment Minister under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i></li> <li>Prepare and submit any formal environmental assessment documentation required by the Environment Minister</li> <li>Public exhibition and community consultation</li> <li>Policy on property acquisition and noise insulation announced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preferred airspace design concept</li> </ul>	Approx. 1 year Approx. 2 years (c. 2019-2021)
Detailed design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate, validate and refine the detailed design taking account of the EPBC Act process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final airspace design for implementation</li> <li>Long term ANEF chart</li> </ul>	Approx. 1 year
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify airspace and air route changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Airspace change proposal approved by CASA.</li> <li>Commencement of air operations at Western Sydney Airport in accordance with specific noise abatement procedures and noise management measures identified in the airspace design process<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>	Approx. 2 years Mid-2020s

<sup>1</sup> The design of flight paths for Western Sydney Airport will be guided by the airspace design principles described in Section 2.2.5 and Condition 16(5) of the Airport Plan.

<sup>2</sup> The specific noise abatement procedures and noise management measures developed through the airspace design process will be recorded in the airport operator's Noise Operational Environmental Management Plan for the proposed airport.

2016

Mid-2020s

